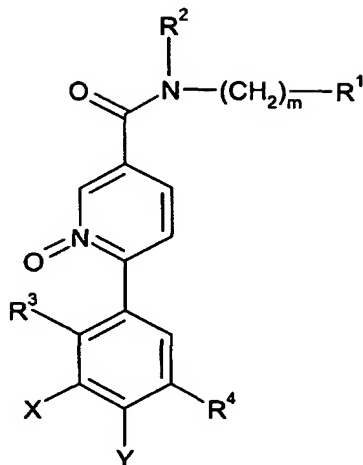


CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein

- 10 R¹ is selected from hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl optionally substituted by up to three groups independently selected from C₁₋₆alkoxy, halogen and hydroxy, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl optionally substituted by one or more C₁₋₆alkyl groups, phenyl optionally substituted by up to three groups independently selected from R⁵ and R⁶, and heteroaryl optionally substituted by up to three groups independently selected from R⁵ and R⁶,

- 15 R² is selected from hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl and -(CH₂)_q-C₃₋₇cycloalkyl optionally substituted by one or more C₁₋₆alkyl groups,

or (CH₂)_mR¹ and R², together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, form a four- to six-membered heterocyclic ring optionally substituted by up to three C₁₋₆alkyl groups;

- 20 R³ is chloro or methyl;

- R⁴ is the group -NH-CO-R⁷ or -CO-NH-(CH₂)_q-R⁸;

R⁵ is selected from C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkoxy, -(CH₂)_q-C₃₋₇cycloalkyl optionally substituted by one or more C₁₋₆alkyl groups, -CONR⁹R¹⁰, -NHCOR¹⁰, -SO₂NHR⁹, -(CH₂)_sNHSO₂R¹⁰, halogen, CN, OH, -(CH₂)_sNR¹¹R¹², and trifluoromethyl;

- 25 R⁶ is selected from C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkoxy, halogen, trifluoromethyl and -(CH₂)_sNR¹¹R¹²;

R⁷ is selected from hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, -(CH₂)_q-C₃₋₇cycloalkyl optionally substituted by one or more C₁₋₆alkyl groups, trifluoromethyl, -(CH₂)_rheteroaryl optionally substituted by R¹³ and/or R¹⁴, and -(CH₂)_rphenyl optionally substituted by R¹³ and/or R¹⁴;

- 30 R⁸ is selected from hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl optionally substituted by one or more C₁₋₆alkyl groups, CONHR⁹, phenyl optionally substituted by R¹³ and/or R¹⁴, and heteroaryl optionally substituted by R¹³ and/or R¹⁴;

R⁹ and R¹⁰ are each independently selected from hydrogen and C₁₋₆alkyl, or R⁹ and R¹⁰, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, form a five- to six-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing one additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R¹⁵, wherein the ring may be substituted by up to two C₁₋₆alkyl groups;

R¹¹ is selected from hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl and -(CH₂)_q-C₃₋₇cycloalkyl optionally substituted by one or more C₁₋₆alkyl groups,

R¹² is selected from hydrogen and C₁₋₆alkyl,

or R¹¹ and R¹², together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, form a five or six-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing one additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R¹⁵;

R¹³ is selected from C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkoxy, -(CH₂)_q-C₃₋₇cycloalkyl optionally substituted by one or more C₁₋₆alkyl groups, -CONR⁹R¹⁰, -NHCOR¹⁰, halogen, CN, -(CH₂)_sNR¹¹R¹², trifluoromethyl, phenyl optionally substituted by one or more R¹⁴ groups and heteroaryl optionally substituted by one or more R¹⁴ groups;

R¹⁴ is selected from C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkoxy, halogen, trifluoromethyl and -NR¹¹R¹²;

R¹⁵ is selected from hydrogen and methyl;

X and Y are each independently selected from hydrogen, methyl and halogen;

m is selected from 0, 1, 2, 3 and 4, wherein each carbon atom of the resulting carbon chain may be optionally substituted with up to two groups selected independently from C₁₋₆alkyl and halogen;

q is selected from 0, 1 and 2;

r is selected from 0 and 1; and

s is selected from 0, 1, 2 and 3;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.

2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R¹ is selected from C₁₋₆alkyl optionally substituted by up to three groups independently selected from C₁₋₆alkoxy, halogen and hydroxy, and phenyl optionally substituted by up to three groups independently selected from R⁵ and R⁶.

3. A compound according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein R² is hydrogen.

4. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims wherein R³ is methyl.

5. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims wherein X is fluorine.

6. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims wherein R⁴ is -CO-NH-(CH₂)_q-R⁸.

7. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims wherein R⁸ is C₃₋₆cycloalkyl optionally substituted by one or more C₁₋₆alkyl groups.

8. A compound according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof substantially as hereinbefore defined with reference to any one of Examples 1 to 20.

9 A compound according to any one of the preceding claims selected from:

6-{5-[(cyclopropylamino)carbonyl]-3-fluoro-2-methylphenyl}-*N*-(2,2-dimethylpropyl)-3-pyridinecarboxamide 1-oxide;

6-{5-[(cyclopropylamino)carbonyl]-3-fluoro-2-methylphenyl}-*N*-[(1*R*)-1,2,2-trimethylpropyl]-3-pyridinecarboxamide 1-oxide;

6-{5-[(cyclopropylamino)carbonyl]-3-fluoro-2-methylphenyl}-*N*-(1,1-dimethylpropyl)-3-pyridinecarboxamide 1-oxide;

6-{5-[(cyclopropylamino)carbonyl]-3-fluoro-2-methylphenyl}-*N*-(1-ethylpropyl)-3-pyridinecarboxamide 1-oxide;

6-{5-[(cyclopropylamino)carbonyl]-3-fluoro-2-methylphenyl}-*N*-[(1*S*)-1,2,2-trimethylpropyl]-3-pyridinecarboxamide 1-oxide;

6-{5-[(cyclopropylamino)carbonyl]-3-fluoro-2-methylphenyl}-*N*-[(1*R*)-1,2-dimethylpropyl]-3-pyridinecarboxamide 1-oxide;

6-{5-[(cyclopropylamino)carbonyl]-3-fluoro-2-methylphenyl}-*N*-[(1*S*)-1,2-dimethylpropyl]-3-pyridinecarboxamide 1-oxide; and

6-{5-[(cyclopropylamino)carbonyl]-3-fluoro-2-methylphenyl}-*N*-[(3,4-dimethylphenyl)methyl]-3-pyridinecarboxamide 1-oxide;

and pharmaceutically acceptable derivatives thereof.

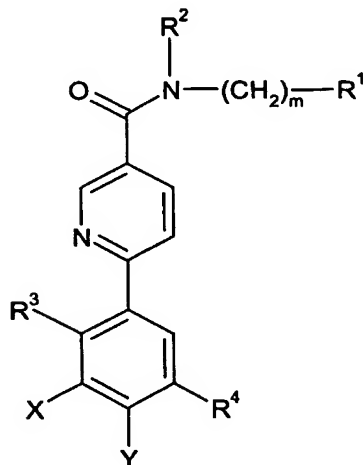
10. A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 9 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof in association with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, diluents and/or carriers.

11. A method for treating a condition or disease state mediated by p38 kinase activity or mediated by cytokines produced by the activity of p38 kinase comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 9 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.

12. A compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 9 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof for use in therapy.

13. Use of a compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 9 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the treatment of a condition or disease state mediated by p38 kinase activity or mediated by cytokines produced by the activity of p38 kinase.

14. A process for preparing a compound of formula (I) as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 9 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof which comprises reacting compound of formula (II)



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(II)

in which R¹, R², R³, R⁴, X, Y and m are as defined in claim 1, with an oxidising agent.